

**Draft Study Plan  
for the**

**Avian Dosing Study**

Work Assignment 2-17  
(2-26-02)

The Avian Dosing Study is a Special Study recommended by the OECD Validation Management Group on Ecotoxicity Test Methods of Endocrine Disruption (VMGeco). The Study Plan will be discussed at the Third Plenary Meeting of the EDMVS in March. This study is an attempt to address several issues that could not be resolved from existing literature by the OECD Expert Group on Assessment of Endocrine Disrupting Effects in Birds who described this pre-validation approach to developing an avian two-generation test method. The avian two-generation test is a proposed Tier 2 assay. Tier 2 assays are intended to (1) determine whether an endocrine-active substance (identified in Tier 1 or through other processes) causes adverse effects in animals; (2) identify the adverse effects; and (3) establish a quantitative relationship between the dose and adverse effect. Data from the Avian Dosing Study will be used to select an optimum exposure scenario to move forward in the pre-validation analysis for relevancy and reliability. The EDMVS is invited to comment on the Study Plan and consider the following questions:

1. Is the approach proposed appropriate to the objectives?
2. Does the EDMVS have suggestions to improve the study plan?
3. Is 17 $\beta$ -estradiol acceptable as a test compound in this study?
4. Is methyl parathion appropriate as a test compound to evaluate “chick mortality” influences?
5. Is the approach to determine treatment concentrations for F1 hatchlings and P1 generation appropriate?
6. Is the approach for considering mating behavior endpoints appropriate?